



CALCode Quarterly

An e-publication of the California Building Standards Commission

From the Executive Director...



Jim McGowan

Happy New Year!

Commission staff began 2013 the same way we ended 2012, amidst an explosion of activity in preparation for the final review and adoption of the 2013 California Building Standards Code. Given the sheer volume of material that was proposed for this triennial code cycle, public commission meetings were held in mid-December and in January in order to properly review all of the proposed updates and changes. Title 24, Cali-

fornia's thirteen volume building code, is now being assembled for submission to the respective publishers. The Commission staff will spend the next six months working with state agencies, the ICC, IAPMO and BNi/NFPA preparing the documents for the **July 1, 2013 publication date**. The 2013 code goes into effect on January 1, 2014.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the many, many industry stakeholders and members of the public who participated in this code cycle review process. I also want to recognize the numerous state agency staff members who worked long and hard to meet the rule-making deadlines. And of course, each and every member of the CBSC staff who coordi-

nated the codification processes and orchestrated each phase in a timely manner.

We have only touched on some of the 2013 code highlights within the pages of this newsletter. I encourage you to continually check the CBSC website, www.bsc.ca.gov for updated information. We will endeavor to provide useful direction concerning changes that you need to know by the time the new code becomes effective on January 1, 2014!

Best wishes for the year ahead...

California
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**HAPPY
NEW YEAR!**

CALGreen®



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Code Change

The triennial code cycle represents a thorough regulatory system by which building codes are reviewed and revised in the State of California. The adjacent graphic illustrates the three year process, which includes an intervening cycle for supplements and errata:

What to look for in the 2013 Code

The current triennial cycle process produced a number of significant changes in California's code. Part 2 and Part 6 of Title 24 will reflect the majority of those revisions.

The **California Energy Code**, Part 6, went through an extensive rewrite in an effort to ramp up energy conservation measures in line with state policy that requires all new residential buildings by the year 2020 be "zero net energy" – that is, that all the energy required to operate the buildings' heating, cooling, water heating, and lighting systems, and their appliances – should be produced on-site, or, if some energy is needed from electricity and natural gas utilities, that the buildings produce an equivalent amount of energy for delivery to the system. For more information visit the Energy Commission's [website](#).

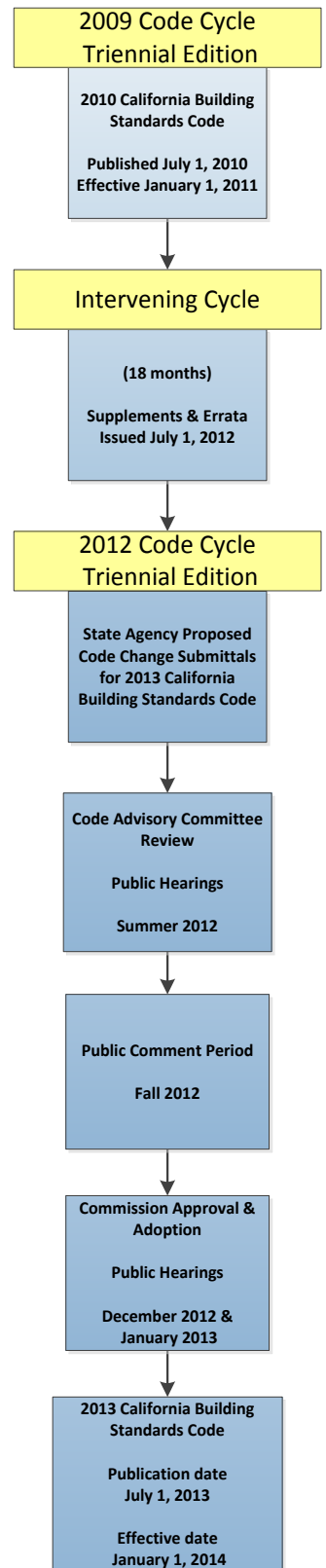
New **accessibility standards**, Part 2, Chapter 11B were developed by the Division of the State Architect and integrate existing state building code provisions with those from the 2010 Americans with Disabilities Act Standards for Accessible Design. The new regulations will, for the first time ever, align existing California and federal access regulations for everything ranging from parking spaces and handrails to public housing. The result is a single set of standards that meet both state and federal requirements and enhance accessibility for all Californians.

Requirements for **nonresidential building alterations and additions** have been revised from the previous permit valuation of \$500,000.00 or 2000 Sq. Ft. to a more stringent valuation of \$200,000.00 or 1000 sq. ft.

Greywater provisions have been modified to allow for broader residential application. And for the first time, **rainwater catchment** criteria have been added to California's Plumbing Code, Part 5 for residential and non-residential occupancies.

For more information on the 2013 code go to the CBSC website and review the [approved standards](#).

The Triennial Cycle



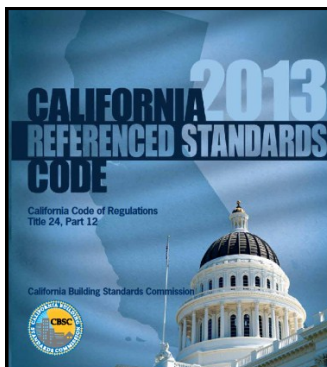
2013 Code Publication

Approved and Adopted...Now what?

With the December 2012 and January 2013 commission approval and adoption of the 2013 code, CBSC staff now jumps into the publication phase of the process. Throughout the next six months commission staff along with the other pertinent state agency participants will review the requisite code changes and new language to ensure accuracy with the three entities that publish Title 24, California's codes:

International Code Council:

- Part 1: Administrative
- Part 2: Building Code
- Part 2.5: Residential
- Part 6: Energy
- Part 8: Historical
- Part 9: Fire
- Part 10: Existing Building Code
- Part 11: CALGreen



BNI Books/National Fire Protection Agency:

- Part 3: Electrical

International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials:

- Part 4: Mechanical
- Part 5: Plumbing

**Part 7 remains vacant*

Legislative Update...

Each legislative session hundreds of bills are introduced in the California State Legislature. Some of these bills address issues that relate to the design or construction of buildings, and some deal specifically with the California Building Standards Commission. The CBSC issued an Information [Bulletin](#) in December that summarized legislative changes to state laws that effect buildings and building standards made during 2012 and that went into effect as of January 1, 2013.

Following is a list of some of the bills, which have been introduced thus far in the 2013-2014 legislative session:

- | | | |
|------------------------|-----------|--|
| AB-12 | (Cooley) | State government: Administrative Procedure Act: Standardized regulatory impact analyses. |
| AB-56 | (Weber) | School facilities: Carbon Monoxide devices |
| AB-127 | (Skinner) | Fire safety: fire retardants: building insulation |
| AB-151 | (Olsen) | Local government: fee waiver: disabled veterans |

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California's Green Building Code continues to have far reaching impact...

A delegation from the China Architecture Design & Research Group, Urban Planning and Research Institute, Beijing and The Urban and Rural Planning Bureau of Zhangjiakou requested a meeting with commission staff to learn about the development process, structure and execution of CALGreen. Recognizing California's global leadership role in the development of green building standards, the delegation made a special trip to Sacramento during their brief visit to the United States. The design and research team is developing a model 'CALGreen' city.



(l to r, back row) Richard Woonacott, Deputy Secretary for Legislation, State and Consumer Services Agency; Michael Nearman, CBSC Deputy Executive Director; Jim McGowan, CBSC Executive Director; delegation interpreter; Enrique Rodriguez, CBSC Associate Construction Analyst, (front row) nine-member Beijing team.



Visit the California Building Standards Commission, Department of Housing and Community Development and Division of the State Architect CALGreen exhibit, booth #317, at the [Green California](#) Summit and Exposition. This year's program has been revamped to better serve summit participants. Attendees may attend multiple concurrent educational sessions at no charge. Click here to [register](#).



Commission News...

2013 Commission Meetings:

January 23-24 — Completed

April 24, 2013

July 18, 2013

October 8, 2013

Meeting notifications are distributed and posted on the [CBSC](#) website.

Meet the [Commissioners](#)!

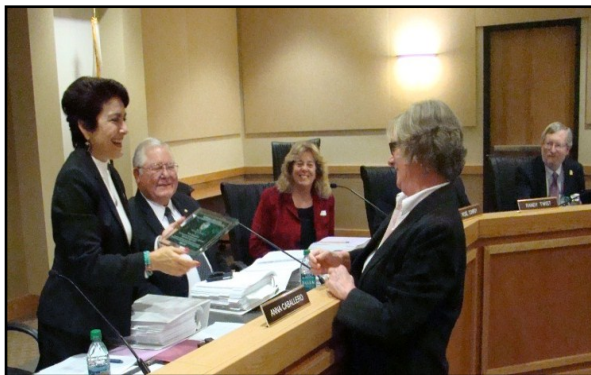
Governor Brown made several new appointments and reappointments to the Commission in 2012. Commissioner biographies and photographs are available on the CBSC website.



(l to r) Commission Chair Secretary Anna Caballero and Vice Chair Commissioner James Barthman



(l to r) Commissioners Richard Sierra, Stephen Jensen and Sheila Lee at the January meeting



(l to r) Secretary Anna Caballero, Commissioner James Barthman, Commissioner Rose Conroy, Teresa Boron-Irwin, and Commissioner Steve Winkel enjoy the moment.

The commission welcomes new legal counsel, Alex Holtz!



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CALCode Quarterly QUIZ....

1.) The Building Standards Commission recently held public hearings to receive public comment and consider adoption of proposed building standards to form the 2013 edition of the California Building Standards Code in Title 24, California Code of Regulations. The public was able to review the proposed code language at the Commission's website in a document called the:

- a.) Notice of Proposed Action
- b.) Proposed Code
- c.) Model Code
- d.) Express Terms



2.) State law requires that the public be made aware of proposals to adopt new or amended building standards by the issuance of a document called the Notice of Proposed Action (NOPA). This Notice includes the following information except for:

- a.) A general description of the nature of the proposal
- b.) The proposed code language to be considered for adoption
- c.) The date, time and location of any scheduled public hearing
- d.) Contact information for obtaining printed copies of the proposal documents

3.) The rationale for the currently proposed code provisions is provided in a document available at the Commission's website called the:

- a.) Informative Digest
- b.) Express Terms
- c.) Initial Statement of Reasons
- d.) Statement of Rationale

4.) When proposed building standards come before the Building Standards Commission for adoption, part of the Commission's consideration is to verify that the proposed building standard meets a standard established in the California Building Standards Law of the Health and Safety Code. That standard is commonly known as the:

- a.) Nine-Point Criteria
- b.) Administrative Procedures Standard
- c.) Building Standard Criteria Analysis
- d.) Criteria for Standards

5.) According to the California Building Standards Law in the Health and Safety Code, the state agencies responsible for developing the provisions for Title 24 are categorized as being either a state adopting agency, or a state proposing agency, for purposes of Title 24 development. Which of the following statements is correct regarding a state adopting agency?

- a.) A state adopting agency may act autonomous and adopt building standards without the approval of the Commission.
- b.) A state adopting agency, such as the State Fire Marshal, may adopt and publish building standards regarding fire and panic safety.
- c.) A state adopting agency, such as the California Energy Commission, may conduct public hearings and adopt building standards for approval and publication by the Building Standards Commission.
- d.) A state adopting agency, such as the Department of Housing and Community Development, may adopt and publish building standards establishing requirements for accessibility in hotels and motels.

Answers: 1) d; 2) b; 3) c; 4) a; 5) c

